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STAR WARS™

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ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC'S AT-RT WALKER

Clone trooper's all terrain transport

Mysteries of Kashyyyk

Jedi Luminara Unduli

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STAR WARS

Walkers have long been used by military commanders to dominate infantry conflicts. Although some would develop into the hulking behemoths of the battlefield, the All Terrain Recon Transport was one of the smallest and lightest walkers deployed during the Clone Wars. Despite its vulnerabilities, the AT-RT was a very successful weapon of war. At the time of the Clone Wars, it would move from blasting Separatist battledroids for the Republic to hunting fugitive Jedi for the Empire.

"ALL UNITS ATTACK! LET'S GO!"

CLONE TROOPER

THE LEGEND
OF THE AT-RT WALKER

The All Terrain Recon Transport was built by Kuat Drive Yards for the Grand Army of the Republic. Lightly armoured and fast moving, the AT-RT was a key part of any infantry action in the Clone Wars.

The chaos of the battlefields of the Clone Wars often saw strength of numbers carry the day. Many hundreds of thousands of clone troopers battled often greater numbers of droids. Larger armoured units stalked the contested ground, including the scout walkers and the massive tactical enforcer assault walkers. While their crews sheltered in the relative safety of armoured conflicts, the single pilot of an AT-RT was more exposed.

No Pushover

In the saddle-like seat of the recon walker, the specially trained clone pilot could easily survey the combat and move to support infantry units that needed the extra firepower of the repeating blaster cannon and mortar mounted on his AT-RT. These weapons could be brought to bear quickly, with the nimble walker having a top speed of around 70km/h. It was true that the AT-RT was lightly armoured and that the pilot was vulnerable but, in the thick of combat, the elite pilots proved themselves again and again to be a difficult target.

Multi-Purpose Tool

The AT-RT was not simply an infantry support weapon. The Grand Army of the Republic used them to provide situation reports and, field conditions allowing, a continuous feed of information back to the Forward Command Centres. This was achieved thanks to the motion detection, scanning and sensor equipment mounted in the forward section of the AT-RT, as well as the enhanced comms gear carried by the pilots themselves. This equipment also acted as a moderately powerful comms relay point for the ground troops, allowing them to punch through

much of the battlefield jamming and localised communications countermeasures employed by the Separatist forces.

In the aftermath of a Republic victory, AT-RT units would be used to survey the field of battle and direct clone troopers to rescue wounded comrades, recover equipment, take prisoners, and to permanently deactivate any Separatist droids that remained. Beyond its battlefield duties, the AT-RT was used in reconnaissance and patrol, both to back up clone troopers and in 'packs' with other AT-RT units. On night missions, the walkers' already powerful lamps could be enhanced by the removal of the blaster cannon and the fitting of a far larger searchlight.

ACTION STATIONS

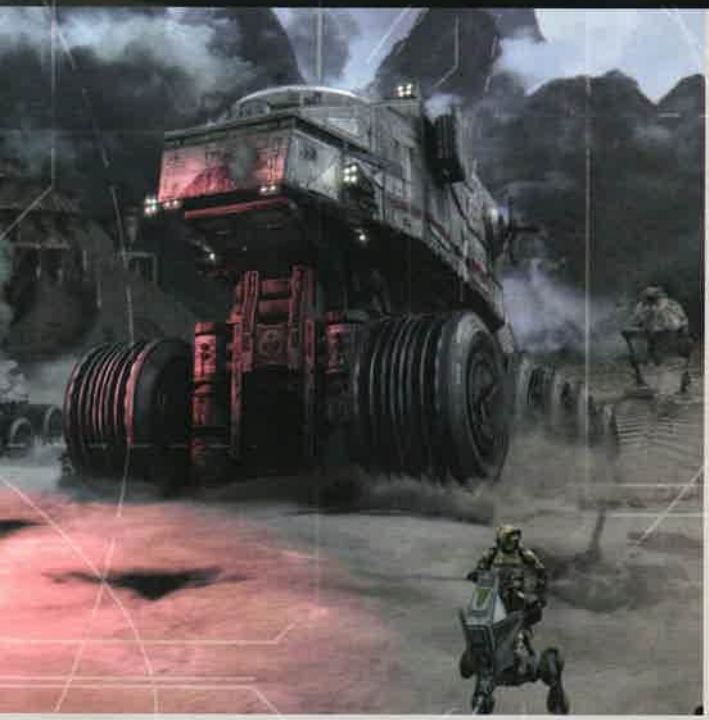
BETRAYAL ON KASHYYYK!

Led by Jedi Masters Luminara Unduli and Quinlan Vos, the 41st Elite Legion was sent to Kashyyyk to help the Wookiees defend their strategically important world. General Grievous had inadvertently turned the Wookiees against the Separatist cause, leaving invasion as his only option.

After various skirmishes with Separatist forces, the Jedi and their clone troops uncovered the reason for the Separatists' dogged determination to capture Kashyyyk. The Wookiees possessed data on otherwise unknown hyperspace routes that would allow the Separatist fleets a significant advantage. Master Yoda arrived on Kashyyyk with Chieftain Tarfful, the Wookiee Senate representative, declaring that he had known about the data but felt that there was something else behind the invasion.

Open Battle

In fact, all of the Clone Wars conflicts were a distraction designed to split up the Jedi Order – Sith Lord Darth Sidious had planned everything. On Kashyyyk, the 41st Elite, reinforced by warriors from the 501st Legion, drew up their



"It's nothing, nothing. All these Wookiees are dead. Move to the east."

AT-RT pilot

battle lines on the Wawaatt Archipelago, at the city of Kachirho. The city was on the edge of a lagoon; one of the few areas open enough to allow the Separatists to field significant forces. Equally, the Republic, previously limited to using light walkers such as the AT-RT in the inland jungles, were able to use their heavy Juggernauts, AT-APs and other such weapons.

Jedi General

Yoda's plan had been to draw the Separatist forces into a full battle at the sea wall on the beach at Kachirho. Once the battle was fully joined, Jedi Master Unduli would strike the exposed left flank, while Master Vos attacked any approaching reinforcements. The battle raged back and forth, with the Republic eventually gaining the upper hand. Unfortunately, at this point, Sidious issued Order 66, and the clone troops turned on the Jedi. And although the Separatists had been beaten, Kashyyyk would later fall to the Empire.

AT-RT PILOTS

TROOPS OF THE 41ST ELITE

Kashyyyk was a strategically important Outer Rim world. As well as being central to a major hub for starship navigation, it was also home to the Claatuvac Guild, who held data on secret hyperspace routes. It was important for the Republic to hold Kashyyyk, so they sent their best available troops – the 41st Elite Legion.

Though the clone troops of the Grand Army of the Republic all came from the same stock and underwent much of the same training, the need for specialist expertise was a given. Individual troops were given training on operating in certain environments, or with certain vehicles or pieces of battlefield equipment. And as time went on, some specialised units became designated elite units in their particular fields. The 41st was one such legion.

Belonging to the 9th Assault Troops, the 41st Elite Legion was itself subdivided into battalions. Two of the very best were Sarlacc Battalions A and B. The first was personally commanded by the leader of the 41st – Senior Clone Commander Gree. Originally known as CC-1004, the commander chose the name Gree based on his own particular interests in exotic and obscure alien species.

Hard-Won Experience

During the Clone Wars, Gree and the 41st were regularly posted to extreme environments – something they had been trained for. However, through Gree's efforts, the legion earned a reputation for gaining the trust of, and working with resident sentients to great effect. They

"Hopefully, we'll be able to intercept a few Jedi before they walk into this catastrophe." Bail Organa

PROFILE

AT-RT
Clone Pilot
Height
1.83 metres
Species
Human
Homeworld
Kamino

operated regularly with Senior Jedi General Luminara Unduli, and became the legion of choice when local cooperation was vital.

Though their basic armour colour was grey, their work on alien worlds meant the 41st frequently used camouflaged Phase II armour. The terrain they worked in rendered many of the regular vehicles used by the Grand Army impractical. However, the 41st became particularly adept with the AT-RT walker and the A6 Juggernaut, both of which were used to great effect on Kashyyyk.

Quite A Reputation

The 41st's continuing excellent service record, and Gree's additional training under ARC Trooper Alpha-17, meant that the legion was the obvious choice to assist the Wookiee people in defending

their world. However, as the Clone Wars escalated and the situation on Utapau degenerated, some of the 41st had to be transferred there to work with the indigenous Pau'ans.

The AT-RT Pilots' Role

In any clone trooper battalion that made use of the reconnaissance walkers, AT-RT pilots were an integral part of the team. This was especially true in the 41st Elite Legion. The pilots had extensive training as recon and scout troops, and served in this role when not piloting their walkers. Their equipment included a helmet comlink with an increased range, allowing them to operate separately from their walkers should the situation demand. In addition, the scouts would occasionally wear lifeform scanners on the chest plates of their body armour.

AT-RT pilots carried DC-15S blasters, and often a DC-15A blaster rifles. Deriving from their scout training, a familiarity with the DC-15x and the converted DC-17m sniper rifles meant that AT-RT pilots regularly used those weapons, too. (This was rather ironic, as inexperienced AT-RT drivers so often fell victim to sniper fire.) Lastly, the scouts carried a small stock of grenades or thermal detonators. Those walker

pilots with a penchant for explosive damage were even seen to carry heavier weapons, such as the PLX-1 missile launcher.

Deployment Options

On Kashyyyk, as on so many other occasions, the AT-RTs and their pilots were used for recon duties. The dangerous jungle terrain that dominated on the Wookiee homeworld meant that the nimble AT-RTs were often the only vehicles able to back up patrolling clone troopers. The weapons mounted on the walker and the skills of the pilot meant that the AT-RTs would accompany charging infantry, providing additional heavy weapons fire to suppress particularly troublesome resistance. During the Battle of Kashyyyk, the AT-RTs provided additional fire against the likes of the Separatist spider droids, although their own light armour was very vulnerable to the heavier weapons of the larger enemy droids.

Unfortunate Outcome

After Order 66 was issued and the clones of the Grand Army turned against the Jedi, AT-RTs were used in the assault on the Jedi Temple. The walkers were able to stalk the corridors as the Emperor's troops, led by Darth Vader, hunted down the Jedi. On Kashyyyk, even as the clone troopers were mopping up the remaining Separatist forces, AT-RTs were hunting down rogue Wookiee soldiers and fugitive Jedi Master Yoda. Fortunately, Yoda was able to evade even the skilled AT-RT pilots of the 41st Elite Legion.

Special helmet

The clones assigned to pilot the AT-RT wore modified armour that included a helmet designed with enhanced comlink for remote operations.

WOOKIEE OEVVAOR JET CATAMARAN

A DESPERATE DEFENCE

When the Trade Federation and their Separatist allies landed in secret on Kashyyyk with the intention of subjugating the planet, the Wookiees pressed into service a number of vehicles that had previously served more peaceful purposes.

Despite their fearsome reputation, Wookiees are essentially peace-loving. As a result, they had no army and no dedicated military vehicles of their own with which to mount an easy defence against large scale military incursions.

Peaceful Origin

Though named after a large carnivorous marine reptile that dwelt in the seas and lagoons of Kashyyyk, the oevvaor jet catamaran was actually a recreational vehicle meant for fishing and other sports. It was the resemblance between the prow of the slender catamaran hulls and the horn of the oevvaor that gave it the aggressive-sounding name.

The twin hulls were remarkably tough, easily resisting small-arms fire, as they were carved from the iron-hard wood of the legendary wroshyr trees. The vehicle had two very compact repulsorlift engines, one under each hull. A generator in the centre fed two powerful propulsion engines on struts above the catamaran's occupants. On some models, the generator also powered a rotor to provide additional control for the pilots.

Oevvaor catamarans were very fast and agile. In battle, their occupants fired heavy weapons mounted on retrofitted pins, or simply carried their guns and threw grenades to deal with heavier vehicles. After the Separatists were successfully repulsed at the Battle of Kashyyyk, oevvaors were retrofitted with laser cannon and other heavy weapons.

Wookiee Catamaran PROFILE

Type
Oevvaor jet catamaran

Manufacturer
Appazanna Engineering Works

Dimensions
Length 15.14m, width 10.15m, height 4.34m

Weapons
Typically fitted with blaster cannon or rifle turret mounts

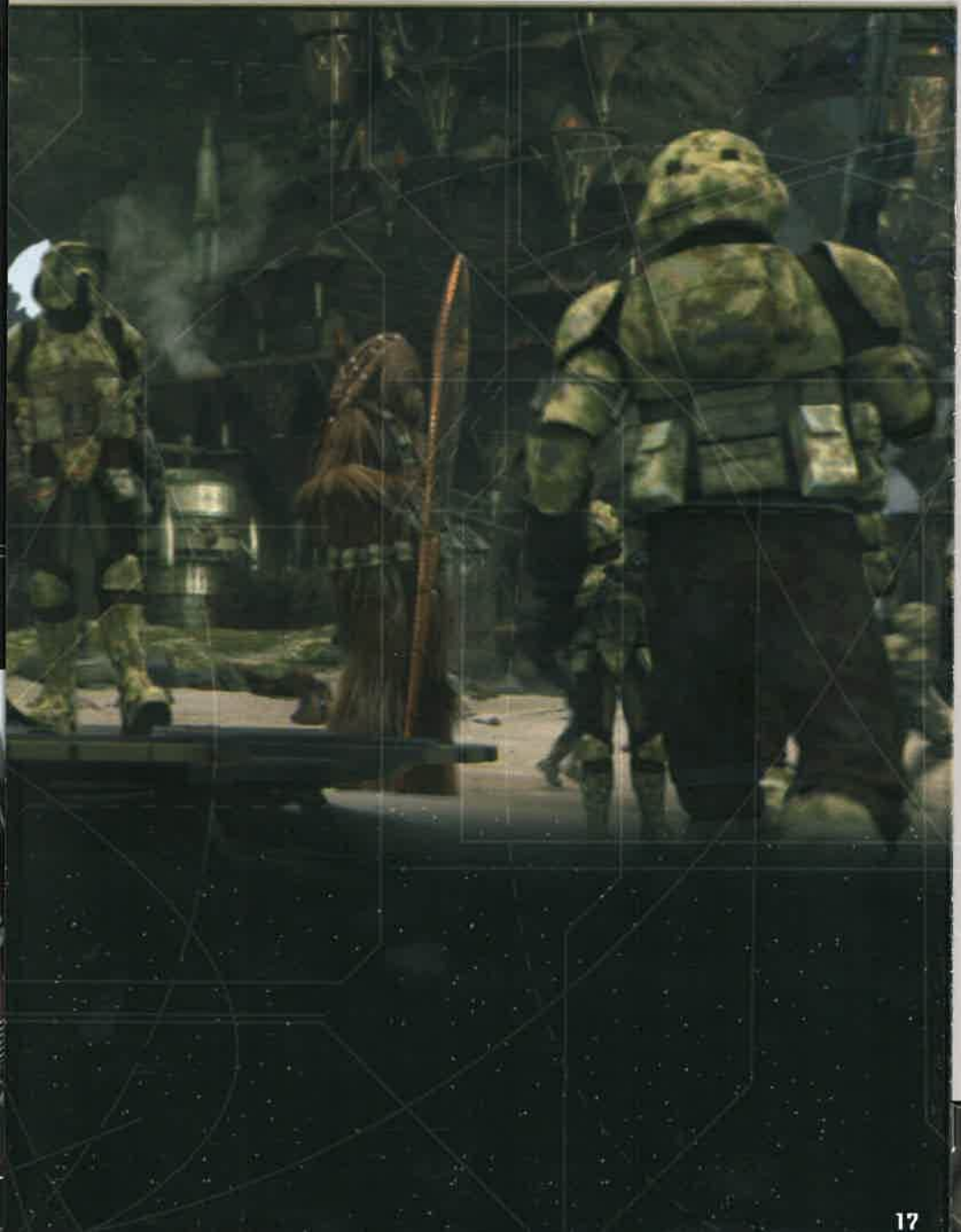
Behind The Scenes

The helicopter-like rotor head fixed to the oevvaor's engine was a late addition to the catamarans. George Lucas had wanted a stronger visual clue as to the crafts' upward propulsion. As a result, many published sources do not feature the rotor blades.

AT-RT WALKER

SCOUTING KASHYYYK

Jedi Master Luminara Unduli, a senior general, commanded the 9th Assault Troops, including the 41st Elite Legion. Their AT-RTs were a key part of the Republic plan to defend the Wookiee homeworld of Kashyyyk; they were among the few vehicles that could penetrate and scout the dense foliage of the jungle floor.



ALL TERRAIN RECON TRANSPORT

Type
Reconnaissance and Infantry Support Light Walker

Height
3.2m

Top Speed
70 km/h

Manufacturer
Kuat Drive Yards

Weapons
Repeating blaster cannon, mortar launcher

Affiliation
Republic, Empire, Rebel Alliance

Crew
1x pilot

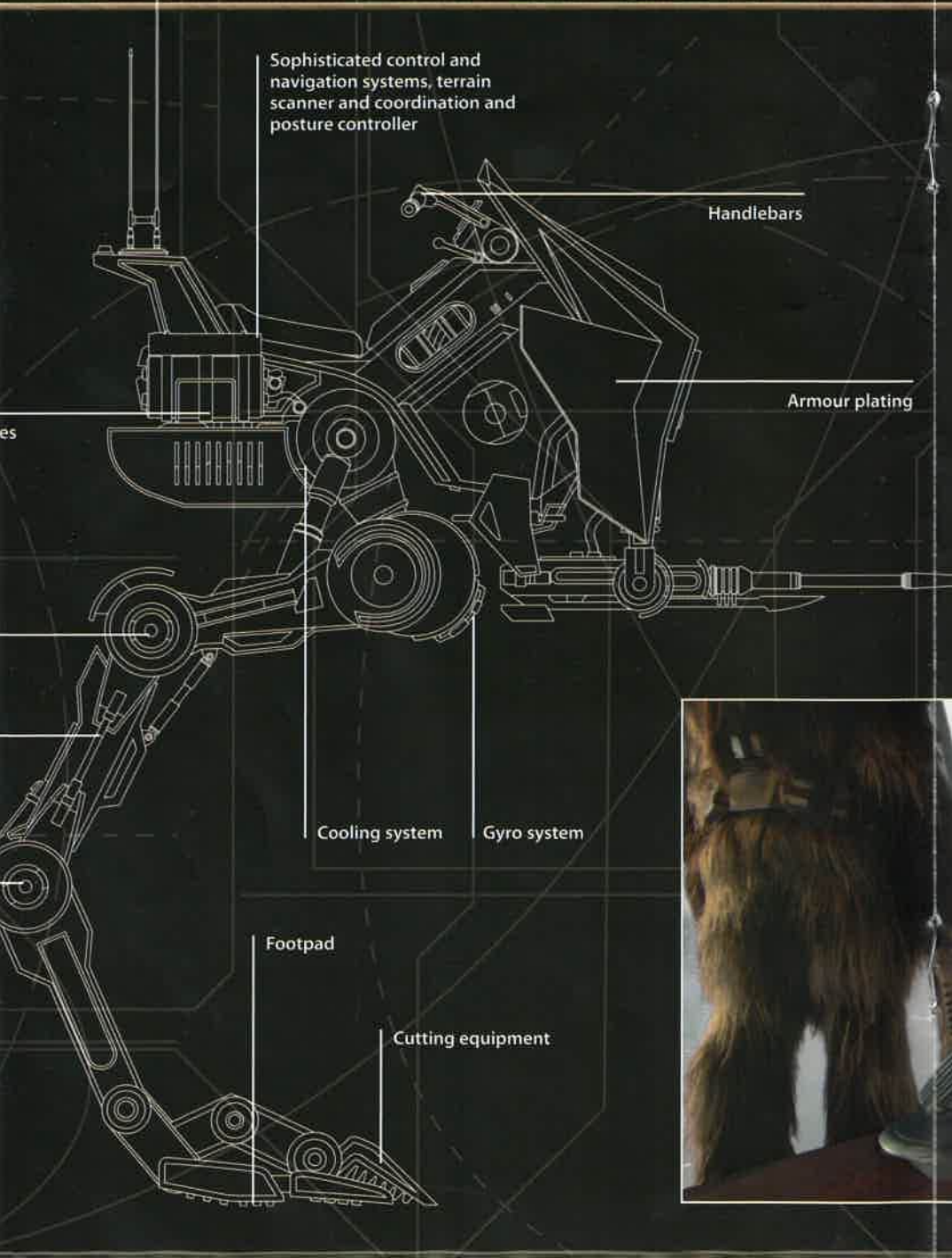
Cargo
10kg

Engine, exhaust baffle and cooling vents

Knee joint

Leg

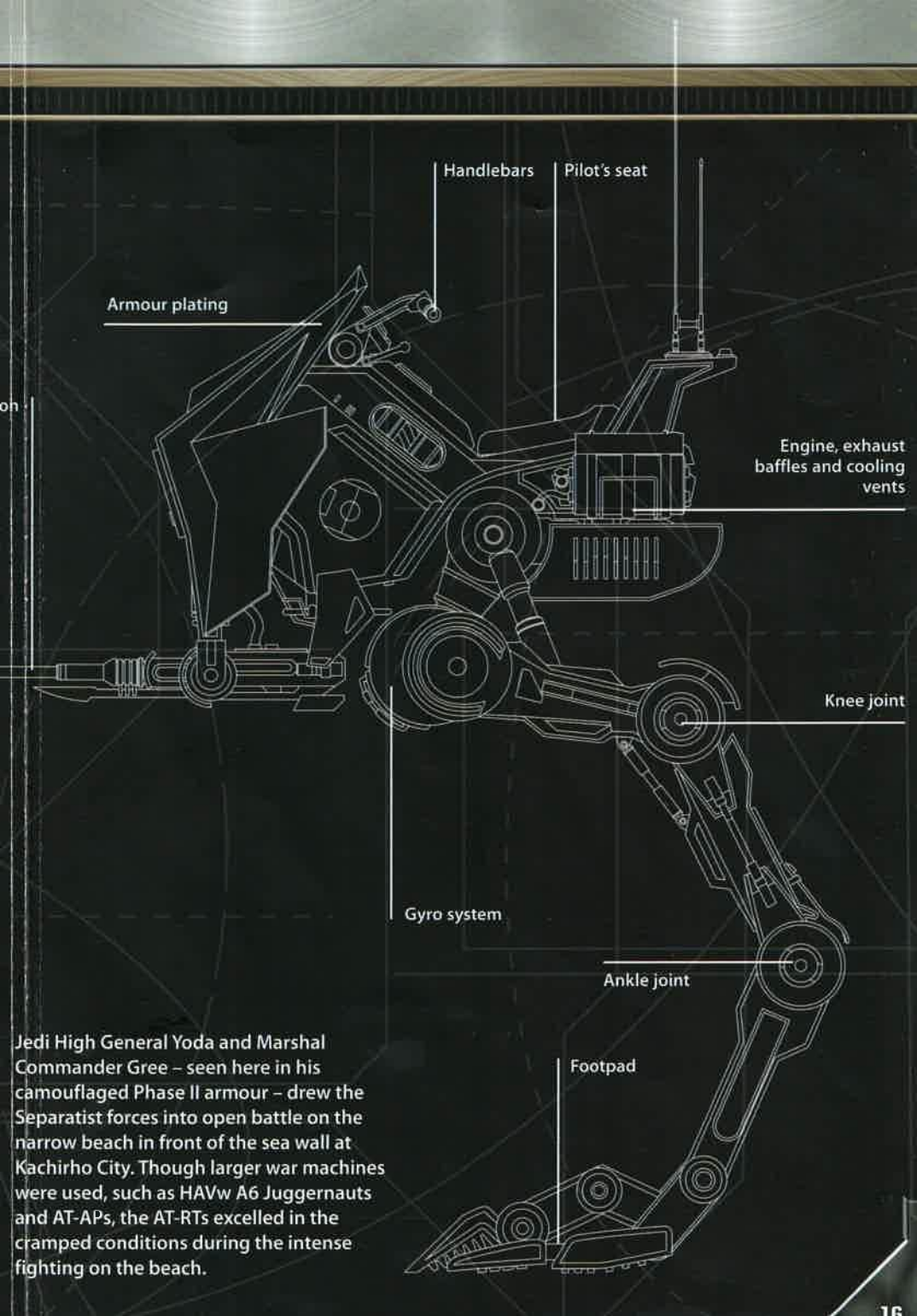
Ankle joint


Sophisticated control and navigation systems, terrain scanner and coordination and posture controller
Handlebars
Armour plating
es
Cooling system
Gyro system
Footpad
Cutting equipment

The two-legged All Terrain Recon Transport is equipped with complex communications systems, a motion detection scanner and additional scanners used to feed information back to a Forward Command Centre.

Repeating blaster canno

Repeating blaster cannon



Jedi High General Yoda and Marshal Commander Gree – seen here in his camouflaged Phase II armour – drew the Separatist forces into open battle on the narrow beach in front of the sea wall at Kachirho City. Though larger war machines were used, such as HAVw A6 Juggernauts and AT-APs, the AT-RTs excelled in the cramped conditions during the intense fighting on the beach.

LUMINARA UNDULI
SENIOR JEDI GENERAL

A Jedi Master of long standing, the Mirialan Luminara Unduli was a fearsome warrior, a wise diplomat, and an outstanding mentor to her many Mirialan Padawan. Despite her skills, Unduli died on Kashyyyk while healing injured clone troopers, another victim of Order 66.

With her olive-green complexion, stunning blue eyes and intricate facial tattoos, Master Luminara cut a strange, otherworldly figure. Greatly respected and admired by her fellow Jedi and by the Padawan she trained, Luminara served the Jedi Order and the Republic for many years. She was Master to many Padawan from her homeworld of Mirial, as it was said by outsiders that their culture demanded Mirialan be trained by one of their own. In fact, this was merely a nod to a very ancient tradition relating to a Jedi hero of old.

Disciplined Jedi

Whatever the reason, Luminara's Padawan went on to become respected Jedi themselves. This was certainly the case for Master Unduli's last Padawan, Barriss Offee. The two worked extremely closely together, particularly in combat. This was no mean feat, as Luminara had devoted herself to the physical arts of both the Jedi and the Mirialan, and this discipline was the origin of the tattoos she wore. Unduli's training gave her an incredible flexibility that saw her twist, leap and twirl out of the way of incoming attacks with uncanny speed.

General Unduli

Unduli and Barriss Offee were still Master and Padawan when the Clone Wars broke out. They were both with Mace Windu and over 200 other Jedi on the planet Geonosis, participating in the fateful rescue mission that turned into the first full battle of the Clone Wars. Months later, they were themselves rescued by Master Yoda from the Jedi temple on Ilum. Master Luminara was made a Senior Jedi General, and she and Offee battled General Grievous on Nadiem. Not long after, Offee was raised to the rank of Jedi Knight. After this, Offee and Luminara saw little of each other. Eventually, Luminara was posted to the defence of Kashyyyk and Barriss to Felucia where both were killed by the troops they served with when Order 66 was broadcast.

Behind The Scenes

Luminara was played by Mary Oyaya in Episode II and Fay David in Episode III. Cree Summer provided Unduli's voice in the 2003 Clone Wars cartoons, while Olivia d'Abo voiced her in the new Clone Wars series.

PROFILE

Luminara Unduli

Homeworld
Mirial

Species
Mirialan

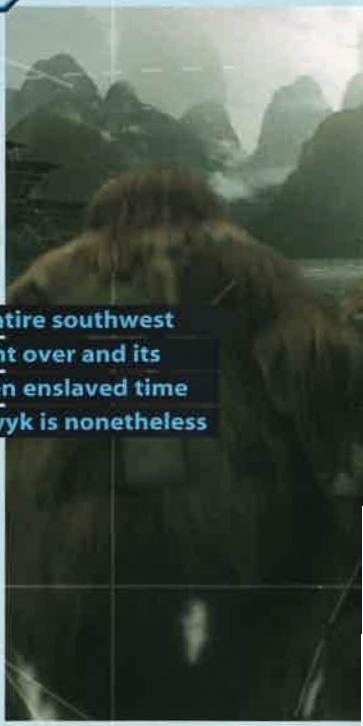
Height
1.7 metres

Weapon
Lightsaber

Affiliation
Jedi

KASHYYYK

THE WOOKIEE HOMEWORLD



Kashyyyk, a navigational gateway for the entire southwest quadrant of the galaxy, has long been fought over and its inhabitants, the mighty Wookiees, have been enslaved time and again. A beautiful, primal world, Kashyyyk is nonetheless a deadly place for the unwary traveller.

It is believed that, far back in time, Kashyyyk was part of the Rakatan Infinite Empire, whose terraforming machinery was left behind when their empire collapsed. The result was that the principal flora of the world, the incredible wroshyr trees, grew to unnatural size. It is likely that the trees are actually one single organism, a theory borne out by the way the enormous trees grow into each other and fuse when their branches meet.

Towering Trees

Wroshyr trees can live for tens of thousands of years, towering above the perpetually dark forest floor to a height of many kilometres. Even where conditions are not ideal, on the coasts for example, the trees can still reach many hundreds of metres. The result is that the majority of flora and fauna live in the branches and trunks of the wroshyr. Wookiees say that there are seven levels to their precipitous environment. Even their best hunters would hesitate to go below the fourth, so dangerous are things that dwell down there.

A Difficult Journey

The Wookiees' introduction to the greater galaxy was not pleasant. Time and again they were threatened or enslaved, their prodigious strength, considerable intelligence and ability to adapt recognised only as a resource to be exploited. Eventually, the increasingly technically adept Wookiee people reverse-engineered a hyperdrive captured from a Trandoshan slaver. With backing from sympathetic worlds, including Alderaan, the Wookiees overcame resistance in the Senate and gained a representative.

This was not the end to their problems. Many still saw Wookiees as a commodity, and slavers still raided

"Go, I will. Good relations with the Wookiees, I have."

Master Yoda

"Goodbye Tarfful. Goodbye Chewbacca. Miss you I will."

Master Yoda leaves Kashyyyk

The Wookiee Way

Though their detractors point to their short temper and renowned fury, Wookiees live in largely peaceful tribal communities under a monarchy. Personal honour is key, and the Wookiee life-debt is a celebrated and integral part of their culture. If a Wookiee's life is saved by another, they swear a life-long service to that individual and their family.

Kashyyyk. Even as they colonised their own moons and worlds beyond, Wookiees were still called brutish and savage. As the galaxy slid into the darkness of the Clone Wars, dark forces again sought to claim the jungle world as their own.

Fighting For Freedom

Not long before the Clone Wars erupted, the Wookiees had clashed with the Trade Federation. When the Wookiee Trade Guild exercised its right to tax Trade Federation goods passing through the Kashyyyk system, Count Dooku himself led a droid army in the forcible, fatal disbanding of the Guild. Despite this atrocity, and other lesser events, the Wookiees did not initially declare for either side in the Clone Wars. This was partly because of growing frustration at the lack of progress in the Galactic Senate in resolving the issue of Wookiee slavery.

General Grievous grew tired of waiting for the Wookiees, and his clumsy attempt to force the issue resulted in the death of the reigning monarch's son. The Wookiees immediately sided with the Republic. The Separatists landed a droid army in the Wawaatt Archipelago. The Republic forces and their Jedi generals scrambled to hold the droid army at the beach in front of Kachirho City. The Republic won that battle but as the fighting drew to a close, the Emperor issued Order 66. Clone troops turned on Wookiee and Jedi alike.

Enslaved Once More

The Empire quickly replaced the Republic and, four months later Kashyyyk came under Imperial control. It would remain this way for some years, with captive Wookiees being used as slave labour by the Empire and its allies. It took two attempts by the New Republic before Kashyyyk was freed from bondage, but finally, five years after the Battle of Yavin, the proud Wookiees took their place in the galaxy once again as a free people.

LONG TIME COMING

CREATING KASHYYYK

For many *Star Wars* fans, getting a glimpse of the Wookiee homeworld in Episode III was the end of a very long wait. However, it wasn't the first time Kashyyyk had been caught on film.

The forested Wookiee planet had been present since a 1973 story treatment of *Star Wars*, when it was called Yavin. The first draft of the script saw the primitive 'Wookees' of the Forest of Gargantuans being instrumental in bringing down the Empire. While the now-sophisticated and technically adept Chewbacca became the only Wookiee in *Star Wars*, the idea of a primitive species helping to overthrow the Empire remained.

'The Wookiee planet that I created for Star Wars was eventually turned into the Ewok planet in Jedi', explained George Lucas. 'I basically cut the Wookiees in half and called them Ewoks!'

Lucas' ideas for Chewbacca's home planet were detailed and thorough. It was a jungle world full of huge trees, with the Wookiees living at the top of a multi-layered ecosystem. Discussing it in September 1977, Lucas said:

'...the jungle in some places is over a mile deep... In some cases, the jungle is so dense that you can...walk across the top of the trees because they are so hard and flat and dense. Underneath the trees it's very murky down there. Very dark and swampy and very dreary and mucky and all kinds of ugly little creatures...'

Kashyyyk On Screen

The details of Kashyyyk stayed the same from the 1970s through to the making of Episode III. This was partly due to production paintings by Ralph McQuarrie being used as establishing shots of the Wookiee

Kashyyyk Construction

Work on Kashyyyk began in August of 2002, with concept design supervisors Ryan Church and Erik Tiemens creating paintings of the battle on the Wookiee planet. The general look of the lagoon and the tree houses were approved that month, along with the concept for the catamaran. In January of 2003, concepts were approved for a young Han Solo, who was being brought up by Chewbacca.

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homeworld in the now infamous *Star Wars Holiday Special*, packed with musical numbers, shown on television in 1978. After that, outside of images in Expanded Universe books and comics, Kashyyyk wouldn't be seen again for another 27 years.

To bring Kashyyyk's Wawaatt Archipelago to life for Episode III, a number of different techniques were brilliantly combined. The mixing of artistic woodworking and ultra-modern technology, already depicted back in 1978, was continued. The tree cities, with the Wookiees' ornate homes carved directly into the living wood, were large miniatures, as was the beachfront on which the battle is fought. Additional elements – the canopy, Wookiees, vehicles, droids, etc – were created by combining costumed actors shot against bluescreen with purely digital creations. The stunning vistas of the lagoons and forested mountains were created from a mixture of exotic real-world locations – using backplates shot in China and Thailand – combined with digital matte paintings. The result was a spectacular and beautiful Wookiee world.

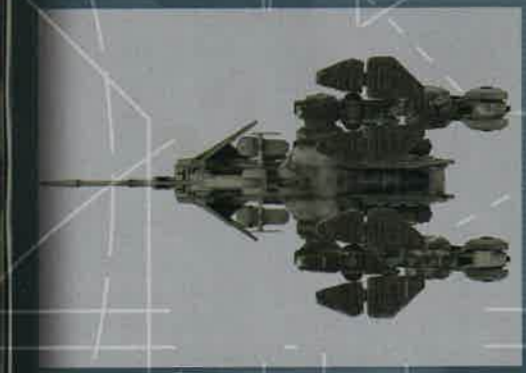
THE AT-RT

STEP-BY-STEP CREATION

CREATING THE AT-RT

1 AT-RTs, as well as the larger AT-APs, were designed to appear as forerunners of the AT-STs seen in *Return of the Jedi*.

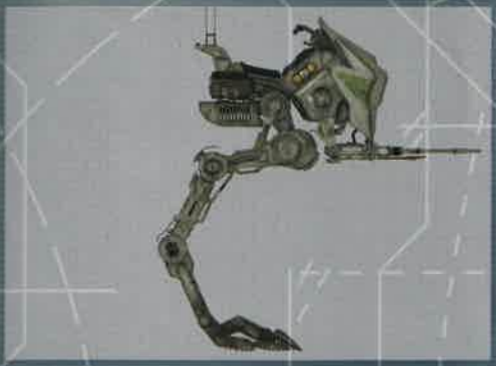
2 In the original script, there was a scene where Yoda distracts clone troopers on AT-RTs allowing Chewbacca to climb up and throw a pilot off the top of the AT-RT.



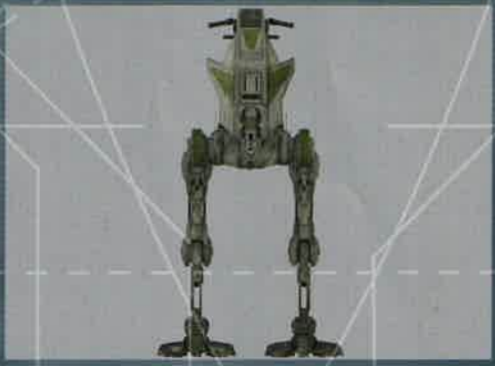
5 The underside of the digital model of an AT-RT which had to be rendered from all sides.

6 The complex digital model could be viewed from any angle the film-makers required.

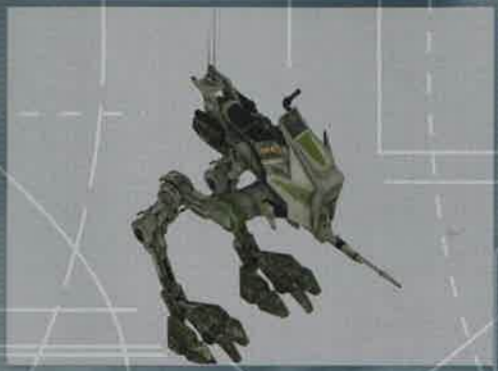
As the AT-RT was considered a precursor of the AT-ST seen in *Return of the Jedi*, Episode III's Animation Supervisor, Rob Coleman, and his team closely studied the stop-motion animation of the scout walkers so they could recreate the 'funkiness' of the hand-animated movement style.



3 The AT-RT was designed by TJ Frame based on a script that simply referred to the single-pilot walker as a modified scout walker.



4 The AT-RT was 13.2m high, 5.2m wide and 9.5m long, with its pilot sitting on a saddle in the open cockpit.



7 As with the AT-ST, the feet of the AT-RT were fitted with cutting claws.

8 The AT-RTs' clone pilots wore modified armour, including an enhanced comlink in their helmets.

1 When the Emperor issued Order 66, who tried to kill Yoda?

2 Luminara Unduli's lightsaber has the same hilt as the weapons of which other Jedi?

3 Was the Wookiee catamaran always meant to fly?

ANSWERS:

1. Clone Commander Gree and one of his scouts advance on Yoda, but both are decapitated before they can fire.

2. Jedi Masters Plo Koon, Mace Windu and Luminara Unduli all have lightsabers with the same hilt.

3. The Wookiee catamaran was originally just intended as a watercraft. George Lucas decided to add it to the Wookiee 'air force'. Later, a rotor head was added to the design to give a strong visual indicator of its upward propulsion capabilities.

K

Karrde, Talon

Character
Expanded Universe

A smuggler and information broker, Talon Karrde was already a well-established figure in the criminal underworld by the time of the Battle of Yavin. Unlike many others in his profession, Karrde had a reputation as a trustworthy and respectable man – as far as a criminal ever could be. After the death of Jabba, Karrde picked up many of the Hutt's better former employees. Though he tried to stay out of politics, he became involved with the New Republic in stopping both Ysanne Isard and Grand Admiral Thrawn. By the time his chief lieutenant, Mara Jade, married Luke Skywalker, Terrik was surprised to find himself almost part of the legitimate government of the galaxy.

Katarn, Kyle

Character
Expanded Universe

Originally from Sulon, Kyle Katarn trained to be a stormtrooper, but defected to the Rebel Alliance when his father was murdered by a Dark Jedi. Along with smuggler Jan Ors, he conducted covert operations for the Alliance, including capturing a section of the first Death Star's plans, and thwarting the Dark Trooper project. Katarn had always felt he was an exceptionally lucky fighter, but was forced to confront his Jedi ancestry as he battled his father's killer for control of the Valley of the Jedi. Initially rejecting the Jedi path, Kyle Katarn eventually became a leading Master of Luke Skywalker's New Jedi Order.

Kessel

Location
Episode IV (mention)

A seemingly unimportant misshapen planetoid in the Outer Rim's Kessa system, Kessel had a dark and dangerous reputation. It was the only known home to a unique creature called an energy spider, whose webs could be turned into glitterstim spice – a potent and addictive drug with both medical and recreational uses. As a result, the mines of Kessel were fought over for generations, and the place gained a deservedly dark reputation when the Empire established a prison there. The New Republic eventually legitimised the mining business, ending Kessel's criminal connections.

Klivian, Derek 'Hobbie'

Character
Episode V

An Imperial TIE fighter pilot who defected to the Rebellion with Biggs Darklighter, Klivian lost his left arm and his right leg below the knee in service to the Alliance. Too ill to fly at the Battle of Yavin, he joined Rogue Squadron when recruited by Wedge Antilles and Luke Skywalker. He flew a snowspeeder on Hoth, and an X-wing above Endor, retiring from a distinguished career as a pilot when the Imperial Remnant made peace with the New Republic, 25 years after Yavin.

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